METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR TREATING
ADDICTION DISORDERS

5   ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

          A method for treating an addiction disorder
    (such as an addiction to or dependency on stimulants,
    nicotine, morphine, heroin, other opiates, amphetamines,
10 cocaine, and/or alcohol) in a patient is disclosed. The
    method includes administering to the patient a first $\alpha_3\beta_4$
    nicotinic receptor antagonist and administering to the
    patient a second $\alpha_3\beta_4$ nicotinic receptor antagonist. The
    second $\alpha_3\beta_4$ nicotinic receptor antagonist is different
15 than the first $\alpha_3\beta_4$ nicotinic receptor antagonist, and the
    first $\alpha_3\beta_4$ nicotinic receptor antagonist and the second
    $\alpha_3\beta_4$ nicotinic receptor antagonist are administered
    simultaneously or non-simultaneously. Compositions which
    include a first $\alpha_3\beta_4$ nicotinic receptor antagonist and a
20 second $\alpha_3\beta_4$ nicotinic receptor antagonist are also
    described. Examples of suitable $\alpha_3\beta_4$ nicotinic receptor
    antagonists for use in the present invention's methods
    and compositions include mecamylamine, 18-
    methoxycoronaridine, bupropion, dextromethorphan,
25 dextrorphan, and phamaceutically acceptable salts and
    solvates thereof. A method of evaluating a compound for
    its effectiveness in treating addiction disorders is also
    described.